

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for preparation of feeder cells for embryonic stem cells comprising the steps of:

culture and proliferation of a cell population comprising ~~at least one kind of cells selected from~~ fetal skin fibroblasts, fetal myofibroblasts, fetal lung fibroblasts, fetal epithelial cells, fetal endothelial cells, adult skin fibroblasts, adult lung fibroblasts, adult epithelial cells, ~~and adult endothelial cells, or any combination thereof in the~~ a culture medium ~~for preparation of feeder cells for embryonic stem cells according to claim 1~~, the culture medium comprising between 2 g and 50 g serum albumin and between 1 mg and 100 mg insulin per liter of medium, and said medium is MEM, α -MEM, DMEM, Ham F10, Ham F12, Medium 199, RPMI 1640, RITC 80-7, MCDB 104, MCDB 105, MCDB 153, MCDB 201, or MCDB 202, and

inactivation of proliferation of said cultured and proliferated cell population by mitomycin C or irradiation, thereby yielding feeder cells for embryonic stem cells.

7. (Original) The preparation method according to claim 6, wherein said culture and proliferation step is conducted in a culture vessel coated with a cell adhesion factor.

8. (Currently amended) The preparation method according to claim 7, wherein the cell adhesion factor is ~~at least one kind selected from~~ collagen, gelatin, fibronectin, vitronectin, laminin,

polylysine, polyornithine, or ~~and~~ polyethyleneimine.

9. (Previously presented) The preparation method according to claim 6, wherein in said culture and proliferation step, the cultured cells are allowed to undergo cell division twenty or more times on average.

10. (Withdrawn) Feeder cells for embryonic stem cells obtained by the preparation method according to claim 6.

11-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The preparation method according to claim 7, wherein in said culture and proliferation step, the cultured cells are allowed to undergo cell division twenty or more times on average.

18. (Previously presented) The preparation method according to claim 8, wherein in said culture and proliferation step, the cultured cells are allowed to undergo cell division twenty or more times on average.

19. (Withdrawn) Feeder cells for embryonic stem cells obtained by the preparation method according to claim 7.

20. (Withdrawn) Feeder cells for embryonic stem cells obtained by the preparation method

according to claim 8.

21. (Withdrawn) Feeder cells for embryonic stem cells obtained by the preparation method according to claim 9.

22. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein said culture medium further comprises a cell growth factor.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the cell growth factor is fibroblast growth factor or epithelial cell growth factor.